

Listing of Claims

1. (Currently amended) A network model for managing a service, comprising:
an end service domain that associates the service with an end service provider, the end
service domain comprising:

a plurality of wholesale service domains, respective ones of the plurality of wholesale
service domains comprising at least one network that provides traffic transport for the end
service domain;

a plurality of gateways, wherein at least a first one of the plurality of gateways couples
one of the plurality of wholesale service domains to another one of the wholesale service
domains and is configured to perform protocol translation on traffic passing between the
coupled wholesale service domains, and wherein at least a second one of the plurality of
gateways is configured to couple a user to the end service domain and is further configured to
communicate with the user by a protocol associated with the service; and

a process domain that provides an abstract representation of applications provided by
the end service domain[.];

a service management system that is communicatively coupled to the end service
domain, the service management system comprising:

a plurality of software objects that represent resources in the end service domain for
providing the service; and

a policy database that comprises rules for associating requirements of the service with
resources in the end service domain.

2. (Canceled)

3. (Currently amended) The network model of Claim 1, wherein the requirements
of the service ~~comprise~~ comprises:

service requirements associated with the user, ~~and~~

~~business requirements associated with the end service provider.~~

4. (Original) The network model of Claim 1, wherein the first one of the plurality

of gateways is further configured to set up internal connections in the one of the plurality of wholesale service domains.

5. (Original) The network model of Claim 1, wherein the second one of the plurality of gateways is further configured to analyze incoming user traffic and to segregate the incoming user traffic according to application.

6. (Currently amended) A method of managing a service, comprising:
providing an end service domain that comprises a plurality of resources that facilitate delivery of the service;

generating a service model that comprises a plurality of virtual processes and a plurality of virtual connections from the end service domain that are associated with the service;

obtaining information that specifies capabilities of the plurality of resources in the end service domain; ~~and~~

providing a policy database that comprises rules for associating requirements of the service with the plurality of resources; and

assigning the plurality of virtual processes and the plurality of virtual connections to ones of the plurality of resources based on the information that specifies the capabilities of the plurality of resources and the policy database.

7. (Canceled)

8. (Currently amended) The method of Claim ~~7~~ 6, wherein the requirements of the service ~~comprise~~ comprises:

service requirements associated with the user; ~~and~~

~~business requirements associated with the end service provider.~~

9. (Currently amended) The method of Claim ~~7~~ 6, wherein generating the service model comprises:

identifying service points in the end service domain corresponding to at least one resource through which a user accesses the service and at least one resource that hosts an end service domain application.

10. (Original) The method of Claim 9, wherein the end service domain comprises: a plurality of wholesale service domains, respective ones of the plurality of wholesale service domains comprising at least one network that provides traffic transport for the end service domain; and

a plurality of gateways, wherein at least a first one of the plurality of gateways couples one of the plurality of wholesale service domains to another one of the wholesale service domains and is configured to perform protocol translation on traffic passing between the coupled wholesale service domains, and wherein at least a second one of the plurality of gateways is configured to couple a user to the end service domain and is further configured to communicate with the user by a protocol associated with the service.

11. (Original) The method of Claim 10, further comprising: associating respective ones of the plurality of virtual connections with respective ones of a plurality of ordered lists of the gateways that define routes through the end service domain.

12. (Original) The method of Claim 11, further comprising: associating respective ones of the plurality of virtual connections with respective ones of a plurality of routes within the wholesale service domains.

13. (Currently amended) A system for managing a service, comprising: means for providing an end service domain that comprises a plurality of resources that facilitate delivery of the service;

means for generating a service model that comprises a plurality of virtual processes and a plurality of virtual connections from the end service domain that are associated with the service;

means for obtaining information that specifies capabilities of the plurality of resources in the end service domain; ~~and~~

means for providing a policy database that comprises rules for associating requirements of the service with the plurality of resources; and

means for assigning the plurality of virtual processes and the plurality of virtual connections to ones of the plurality of resources based on the information that specifies the capabilities of the plurality of resources and the policy database.

14. (Canceled)

15. (Currently amended) The system of Claim 14 13, wherein the requirements of the service ~~comprise~~ comprises:

service requirements associated with the user; ~~and~~
~~business requirements associated with the end service provider.~~

16. (Currently amended) The system of Claim 14 13, wherein the means for generating the service model comprises:

means for identifying service points in the end service domain corresponding to at least one resource through which a user accesses the service and at least one resource that hosts an end service domain application.

17. (Original) The system of Claim 16, wherein the end service domain comprises:
a plurality of wholesale service domains, respective ones of the plurality of wholesale service domains comprising at least one network that provides traffic transport for the end service domain; and

a plurality of gateways, wherein at least a first one of the plurality of gateways couples one of the plurality of wholesale service domains to another one of the wholesale service domains and is configured to perform protocol translation on traffic passing between the coupled wholesale service domains, and wherein at least a second one of the plurality of gateways is configured to couple a user to the end service domain and is further configured to

communicate with the user by a protocol associated with the service.

18. (Original) The system of Claim 17, further comprising:
means for associating respective ones of the plurality of virtual connections with
respective ones of a plurality of ordered lists of the gateways that define routes through the
end service domain.

19. (Original) The system of Claim 18, further comprising:
means for associating respective ones of the plurality of virtual connections with
respective ones of a plurality of routes within the wholesale service domains.

20. (Currently amended) A computer program product for managing a service,
comprising:

a computer readable storage medium having computer readable program code
embodied therein, the computer readable program code comprising:

computer readable program code for providing an end service domain that comprises
a plurality of resources that facilitate delivery of the service;

computer readable program code for generating a service model that comprises a
plurality of virtual processes and a plurality of virtual connections from the end service
domain that are associated with the service;

computer readable program code for obtaining information that specifies capabilities
of the plurality of resources in the end service domain; ~~and~~

computer readable program code for providing a policy database that comprises rules
for associating requirements of the service with the plurality of resources; and

computer readable program code for assigning the plurality of virtual processes and
the plurality of virtual connections to ones of the plurality of resources based on the
information that specifies the capabilities of the plurality of resources and the policy database.

21. (Canceled)

22. (Currently amended) The computer program product of Claim ~~21~~ 20, wherein the requirements of the service ~~comprise~~ comprises:

service requirements associated with the user; ~~and~~
~~business requirements associated with the end service provider.~~

23. (Currently amended) The computer program product of Claim ~~21~~ 20, wherein the computer readable program code for generating the service model comprises:

computer readable program code for identifying service points in the end service domain corresponding to at least one resource through which a user accesses the service and at least one resource that hosts an end service domain application.

24. (Original) The computer program product of Claim 23, wherein the end service domain comprises:

a plurality of wholesale service domains, respective ones of the plurality of wholesale service domains comprising at least one network that provides traffic transport for the end service domain; and

a plurality of gateways, wherein at least a first one of the plurality of gateways couples one of the plurality of wholesale service domains to another one of the wholesale service domains and is configured to perform protocol translation on traffic passing between the coupled wholesale service domains, and wherein at least a second one of the plurality of gateways is configured to couple a user to the end service domain and is further configured to communicate with the user by a protocol associated with the service.

25. (Original) The computer program product of Claim 24, further comprising:
computer readable program code for associating respective ones of the plurality of virtual connections with respective ones of a plurality of ordered lists of the gateways that define routes through the end service domain.

26. (Original) The computer program product of Claim 25, further comprising:
computer readable program code for associating respective ones of the plurality of

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virtual connections with respective ones of a plurality of routes within the wholesale service domains.